



Deval L. Patrick
Governor

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Department of Public Safety

One Ashburton Place, Room 1301

Boston, Massachusetts 02108-1618

Phone (617) 727-3200

Fax (617) 727-5732

TTY (617) 727-0019

[*www.mass.gov/dps*](http://www.mass.gov/dps)

Andrea J. Cabral
Secretary

Thomas G. Gatzunis, P.E.
Commissioner

Minutes

**Bureau of Pipefitters, Refrigeration Technicians and Sprinklerfitters
Department of Public Safety, Bldg B, 1380 Bay St., Taunton, MA 02780
April 8, 2014, 9:30 a.m.**

1. Meeting called to order by the Chairman at 9:37 a.m., followed by roll call:

Board Members Present:

Henry Geryk, Chairman
William Gallagher
Pauline Lally
Frank Norton
Leo Fahey
Brian Kelly
Dan Dumont

Board Members Not Present:

Jennifer Revill
Michael Torchio
Mark Fortune
Jack Viola

Guests Present:

Andrew Heck, RT Applicant
Greg Berardi, RT Applicant
Brett LaPlante, UA Local 51
Harry Brett, Plumbers Local 12
Chuck Borstel, ABC
Barbara Lagergren, Gould Const.Inst.
Doug Neveu, Notch Mechanical
Stephen Roche, Pipefitters Local
Kwame Agyemang, RT
Dan Kilburn, DPS
Holly Bartlett, DPS

2. The minutes from the last meeting on March 19, 2014, were reviewed by members present; **motion to approve these minutes was made by Dan Dumont, seconded by Pauline Lally; motion passed by unanimous vote.**
3. The following applications for licensure were considered by the Bureau:
 - a. Application from Andrew Heck to sit for the Refrigeration Technician exam was considered, Mr. Heck was present at this meeting. The Chairman explained to Mr. Heck that the Bureau wanted him to come before the Bureau to answer any questions regarding his experience or the status of his employer; Mr. Heck acknowledged that he has been working on systems under 10 tons, and that his employers hold licenses, but he's not sure what grade. The Chairman explained that although Mr. Heck's application had been considered at the previous meeting, at that time the Bureau had agreed that they would need more information about his work experience. The Chairman also confirmed that the letter provided by Mr. Heck's employer, InLine Mechanical, confirms that he has the required time. The fact that InLine Mechanical does not have any RCs in their employ was discussed, as was the fact that it is necessary to hold an RC license to employ other RTs. **Motion**

made by Henry Geryk, seconded by Frank Norton, to approve this application to examine for Refrigeration Technician; motion passed by unanimous vote. Frank Norton explained to Mr. Heck the reservations of the Bureau, in that his documented experience has been on systems of less than 10 tons, and he is applying for a license to work on much larger equipment.

- b. Application from Gregory Berardi to sit for the Refrigeration Technician exam was considered, Mr. Berardi was present at this meeting. Mr. Berardi described his work experience at the Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, including scope of work and type/capacity of equipment. **Motion to approve this application was made by Frank Norton, seconded by Brian Kelly; motion passed by unanimous vote.**
 - c. Application from Jeffrey E. Moran to sit for the Refrigeration Contractor exam was considered, Mr. Moran was not present at this meeting. The Chairman informed the Bureau that he had spoken with this applicant and told him that he is not eligible to examine for RC. The members of the Bureau briefly discussed this application, acknowledging that they will need more information regarding Mr. Moran's education and experience. **Motion to table this application until Mr. Moran can attend the next Bureau meeting, and provide additional documentation regarding his experience and training made by Henry Geryk, seconded by Frank Norton; motion passed by unanimous vote.**
4. Remote Participation: The Chairman presented the members of the Bureau with the matter of adopting the option to allow remote participation. The members of the Bureau deliberated on this matter, discussing how this would work, and the potential for abuse of the option by members who could claim to be sick in order to participate remotely. **Motion to adopt this option made by Henry Geryk, seconded by Pauline Lally; by a vote of 2 in favor/5 against, this motion was not passed.**
 5. Update on Review of Exam Questions: The Chairman acknowledged that it has been several years since the exam question have been reviewed, and reported that he had met with the DPS engineering supervisors to discuss the suggestions made by the Bureau members. The Chairman also said that he had heard from several of the trade schools that they would be interested in participating in such a review, and that a tentative date has been set for June 10, 2014, and that DPS will be reaching out to anyone who might be interested in participating. He also said that review of the pipefitting questions has already begun, and that the refrigeration questions would be reviewed next. Frank Norton pointed out that the last time a review of this nature took place, there were 3 bureau members, joined by 3 members from DPS and 3 members from outside entities. Supervisor Kilburn addressed the Bureau, summarizing how the review will proceed; the task force will consist of a chair, a rep from DPS, and a rep from a large company, from union, and from an educational institution, emphasizing that these positions must be filled by individuals who will bring questions to be considered, and that all are encouraged to reach out to potential participants. The Chairman clarified that the Bureau members are being asked to make recommendations for participants to DPS.
 6. Update on 522 CMR: The Chairman asked the members if anyone had any information to share regarding the current status of 522 CMR, if anyone is aware of any pending legislation that might impact 522 CMR. Leo Fahey told the members that proposed amendment to the legislation regarding the matter of grandfathering of plumbers has been dropped, but that it was his understanding that the changes to the grandfathering application to include plumbers that John Rogers had told him of would be discussed at today's meeting. Supervisor Kilburn informed the Bureau that it is the intent of the DPS to include such language in the grandfathering, and that this would be clarified at the next meeting.
 7. Requirement of PM to run a business: The Chairman addressed a question brought up at the last meeting, as to whether a person must hold a master's license to run a business, without other pipefitters working for him. Pauline Lally also brought up the matter of whether someone would need a contractor's license to run a business when they are working only on systems under 10 tons. Supervisor Kilburn told the Bureau that he would follow up on this matter.

8. The matter of license renewal applications being e-mailed and not received was brought up. This was discussed briefly, Supervisor Kilburn informed the Bureau that DPS is moving towards a system of renewing licenses on-line, similar to that used by the Motor Vehicle Registry.
9. The matter of continuing to hold a technician or journeyman's license once the contractor/master license has been attained was brought up. The Chairman explained that there is no requirement to hold both. Brian Kelly then asked if there is anything prohibiting someone from holding both. Supervisor Kilburn said that he would seek clarification from Legal on this matter.
10. Doug Neveu, from Notch Mechanical, asked the Bureau where it is written that pipefitting licenses not renewed can only be renewed by reexamination, pointing out that people are not subject to the same harm if their drivers license expires. Supervisor Kilburn explained that this is in statute, and that this applies to all engineering license, not only pipefitting.
11. **Motion to adjourn made by Bill Gallagher, seconded by the Chairman; meeting adjourned at 10:55 AM.**

The next meeting of the Bureau of Pipefitters, Refrigeration Technicians, and Sprinklerfitters is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, May 21, 2014.

List of Documents/Exhibits Used at this Meeting

- a. Draft agenda for today's meeting
- b. Draft minutes from meeting on 3/19/2014
- c. A. Heck, RT Application
- d. G. Berardi, RT Application
- e. J. Moran, RC Application